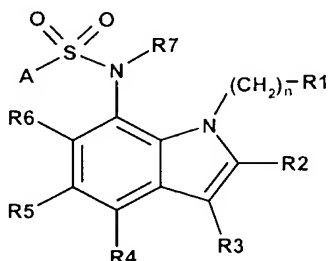


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A sulfonamide compound of general formula (Ia),



(Ia),

wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is a -NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup> radical or a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted cycloaliphatic radical, which may optionally contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member and which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system which may optionally contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member,

R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, alkoxy, cyano, a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical, or an optionally at least mono-substituted phenyl radical or an optionally at least mono-substituted heteroaryl radical,

R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical,

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup>, identical or different, represent hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical,

with the proviso that R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are not hydrogen at the same time, and if one of them, R<sup>8</sup> or R<sup>9</sup>, is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted

C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> aliphatic radical, the other one is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical with at least five carbon atoms,

or

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together with the bridging nitrogen atom form a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted heterocyclic ring, which may contain at least one additional heteroatom as a ring member and/or which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system, which may optionally contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member,

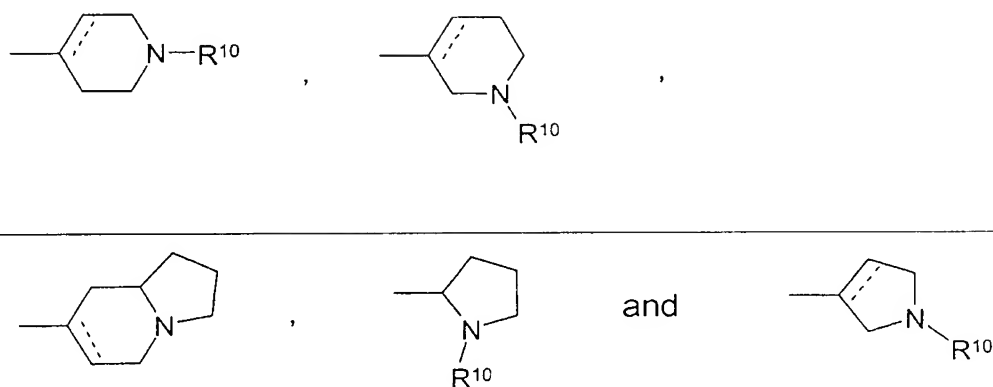
A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene group and/or which may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member in one or more of its rings,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

optionally in form of one of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers or diastereomers~~, its racemate or in form of a mixture of at least two of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers or diastereomers~~, in any mixing ratio, or a salt thereof, ~~preferably a corresponding, physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or a corresponding solvate thereof.~~

Claim 2 (Currently amended): A compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R<sup>1</sup> represents a -NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup> radical or a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted 5- or 6-membered cycloaliphatic radical which may optionally contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member and/or which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system, which may optionally contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member, whereby the rings of the ring system are 5- or 6-membered;

~~preferably R<sup>+</sup> represents an -NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup> radical or a radical chosen from the group consisting of~~



wherein, if present, the dotted line is an optional chemical bond, and  $R^{10}$  is hydrogen, a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical or a benzyl radical, preferably hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl radical.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): A compound according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl radical or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl radical;

preferably  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical;

more preferably  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  each represent hydrogen.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~[[to 3]], wherein characterized in that~~  $R^7$  represents hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl radical or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl radical;

preferably  $R^7$  represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical;

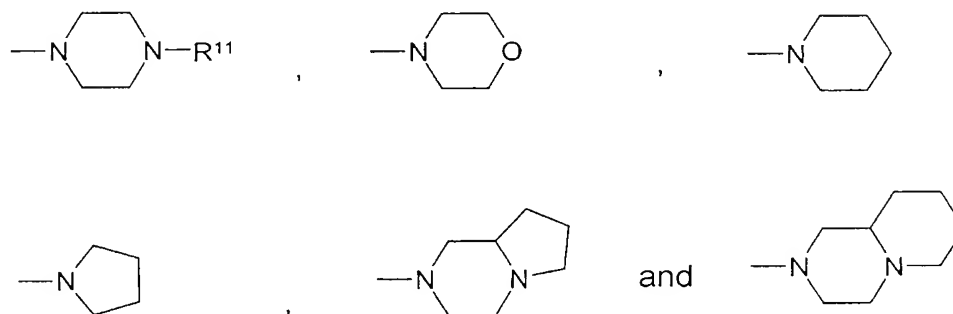
~~more preferably R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl radical.~~

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims claim~~ 1 [[to 4]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup>, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkenyl radical or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkynyl radical,

or

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together with the bridging nitrogen atom form a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring, which may contain at least one additional heteroatom as a ring member and/or which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system, which may optionally contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member, whereby the rings of the ring system are 5- 6- or 7-membered.

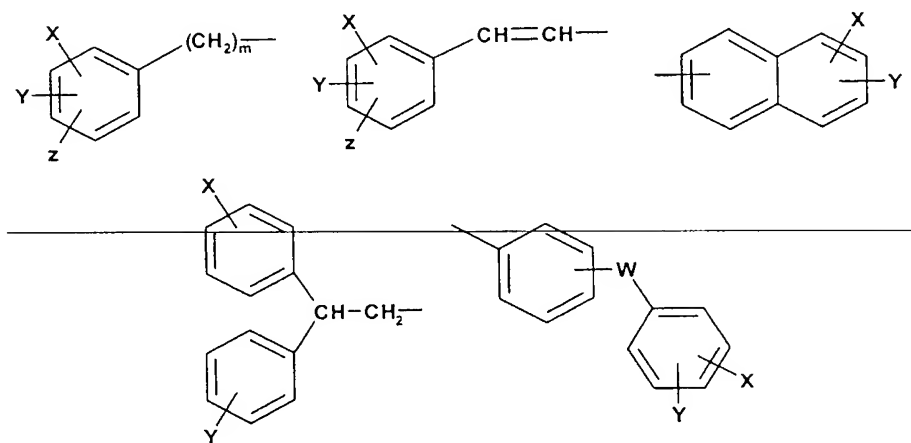
Claim 6 (Currently amended): A compound according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup>, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>10</sub> alkyl radical, or R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> together with the bridging nitrogen atom form a radical chosen from the group consisting of



wherein R<sup>11</sup>, if present, represents hydrogen, a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl radical or a benzyl radical, ~~preferably hydrogen, or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl radical.~~

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims claim~~ 1 [[to 6]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene group, an optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenylene group or an optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynylene group and/or wherein the ring(s) may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member;

~~preferably A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom, or a radical chosen from the group consisting of~~



~~wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a NR<sup>+2</sup>R<sup>+3</sup> radical,~~

~~wherein R<sup>+2</sup> and R<sup>+3</sup>, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl,~~

~~W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a CH<sub>2</sub>, O, S group or a NR<sup>+4</sup> radical,~~

wherein  $R^{14}$  is hydrogen or a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

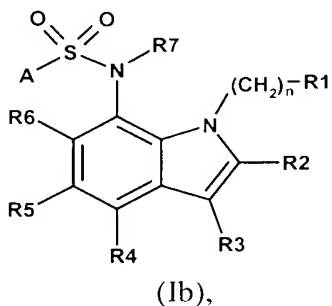
n is 1 or 2.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A compound of general formula (Ia) according to one or more of claims claim 1 [[to 7]] selected from the group consisting of

- [5] 5-chloro-3-methyl-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-7-yl)-benzo[b]thiophen-2-sulfonamide,
- [6] N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-7-yl)naphthalene-1-sulfonamide,
- [7] 6-chloro-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-7-yl)imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-5-sulfonamide, [[and]]
- [8] 2-(naphth-1-yl)-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-7-yl)ethansulfonamide,

and their corresponding salts and solvates.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): A sulfonamide compound of general formula (Ib),



wherein

$R^1$  represents a  $-NR^8R^9$  radical,

$R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, alkoxy, cyano, a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical, or an optionally at least mono-substituted phenyl radical or an optionally at least mono-substituted heteroaryl radical,

$R^7$  represents hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical,

$R^8$  and  $R^9$ , identical or different, represent hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_{1-4}$  aliphatic radical,

A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene group and/or which may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member in one or more of its rings,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

optionally in form of one of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers or diastereomers~~, its racemate or in form of a mixture of at least two of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers or diastereomers~~, in any mixing ratio, or a salt thereof, ~~preferably a corresponding, physiologically acceptable salt thereof, or a corresponding solvate thereof.~~

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 9, characterized in that wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkenyl radical or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_{2-6}$  alkynyl radical,

~~preferably  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl radical,~~

~~more preferably  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  each represent hydrogen.~~

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 9 [[or 10]],  
~~characterized in that~~ wherein  $R^7$  represents hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least  
mono-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-  
substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenyl radical or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  
 $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynyl radical;

~~preferably  $R^7$  represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-  
substituted  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical,~~

~~more preferably  $R^7$  represents hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl radical.~~

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~any of claims~~ claim 9 [[to  
11]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein  $R^8$  and  $R^9$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen  
or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl radical,

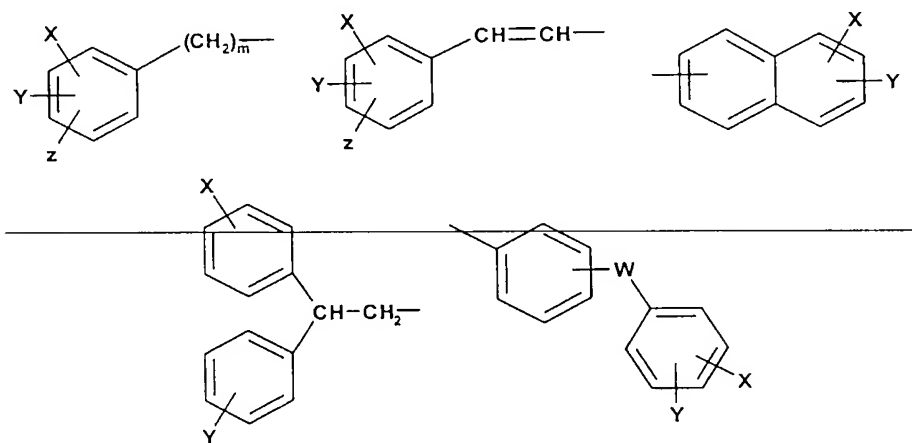
~~preferably  $R^8$  and  $R^9$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl  
radical,~~

with the proviso that  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  are not hydrogen at the same time.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims~~  
claim 9 [[to 12]], ~~characterized in that~~ wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-  
substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-  
membered, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_1$  -  $C_6$  alkylene  
group, an optionally at least mono-substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkenylene group or an optionally at  
least mono-substituted  $C_2$ - $C_6$  alkynylene group and/or wherein the ring(s) may contain at  
least one heteroatom as a ring member;



preferably A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom, or a radical chosen from the group consisting of



wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl, linear or branched  $C_1-C_6$  alkoxy, linear or branched  $C_1-C_6$  alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a  $NR^{12}R^{13}$  radical,

wherein  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl,

W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a  $CH_2$ , O, S group or a  $NR^{14}$  radical,

wherein  $R^{14}$  is hydrogen or a linear or branched  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

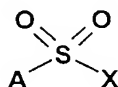
m is 1 or 2.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims~~  
claim 9 [[to 13]] selected from the group consisting of

- [1] N-[1-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indole-7-yl]-naphthalene-1-sulfonamide,
- [2] N-[1-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indole-7-yl]-5-chloro-3-methylbenzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonamide,
- [3] N-[1-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indole-7-yl]-4-phenylbenzenesulfonamide,  
[[and]]
- [4] N-[1-(2-dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indole-7-yl]-6-chloroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-5-sulfonamide,

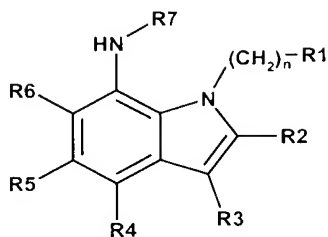
and their corresponding salts ~~and solvates~~.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ia) ~~and/or (Ib)~~, according to ~~one or more of claims~~ claim 1 [[- 14]], characterized in that wherein at least one compound of general formula (II), or one of its suitably protected derivatives,



(II)

wherein ~~A has the meaning according to one or more of claims 1—14~~, and X is an acceptable leaving group, ~~preferably an halogen atom, more preferably chlorine~~ and is reacted with at least one 7-aminoindole of general formula (III), or one of its suitably protected derivatives;



(III),

wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^7$  and  $n$  have the meaning according to one or more of claims 1–14 to obtain the corresponding sulfonamide and optionally, from the latter, the protective groups may be removed if necessary.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ia) and/or (Ib), according to one or more of claims claim 1 [[- 14]], wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^8$  and  $R^9$ ,  $n$  and  $A$  have the meaning according to one or more of claims 1–14, and  $R^7$  is a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, characterized in that comprising reacting at least one compound of general formula (Ia) and/or at least one compound of general formula (Ib), wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^8$ ,  $R^9$ ,  $n$  and  $A$  have the meaning indicated in claims 1–14, and  $R^7$  is an hydrogen atom, is reacted with an alkyl halogenide or dialkyl sulfate.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing the salts, preferably the physiologically acceptable salts of the compounds a salt of general formula (Ia) and/or (Ib), according to one or more of claims claim 1 [[- 14]], consisting of reacting wherein at least one compound of the general formula (Ia) and/or at least one compound of the general formula (Ib) is reacted with a mineral acid or organic acid in a suitable solvent.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition medicament comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to one or more of claims claim 1 [[to 8]] and optionally one or more pharmacologically acceptable excipients.

Claims 19-45 (Canceled).

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition medicament

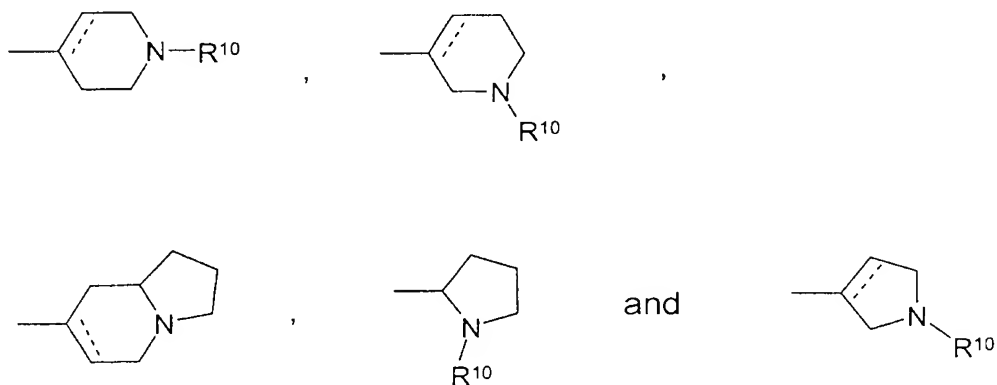
comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to ~~one or more of claims 9 to 14~~ claim 9 and optionally one or more pharmacologically acceptable excipients.

Claims 47-73 (Canceled).

Claim 74 (New): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 75 (New): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is in the form of its enantiomers or diastereomers or in the form or a mixture of at least two of its enantiomers and/or diastereomers.

Claim 76 (New): The compound according to claim 2 wherein  $R^1$  represents an - $NR^8R^9$  radical or a radical chosen from the group consisting of



wherein, if present, the dotted line is an optional chemical bond, and  $R^{10}$  is hydrogen, a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl radical or a benzyl radical.

Claim 77 (New): The compound according to claim 76, wherein  $R^{10}$  is hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl radical.

Claim 78 (New): The compound according to claim 3, wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$  and  $R^6$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least

mono substituted, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl radical.

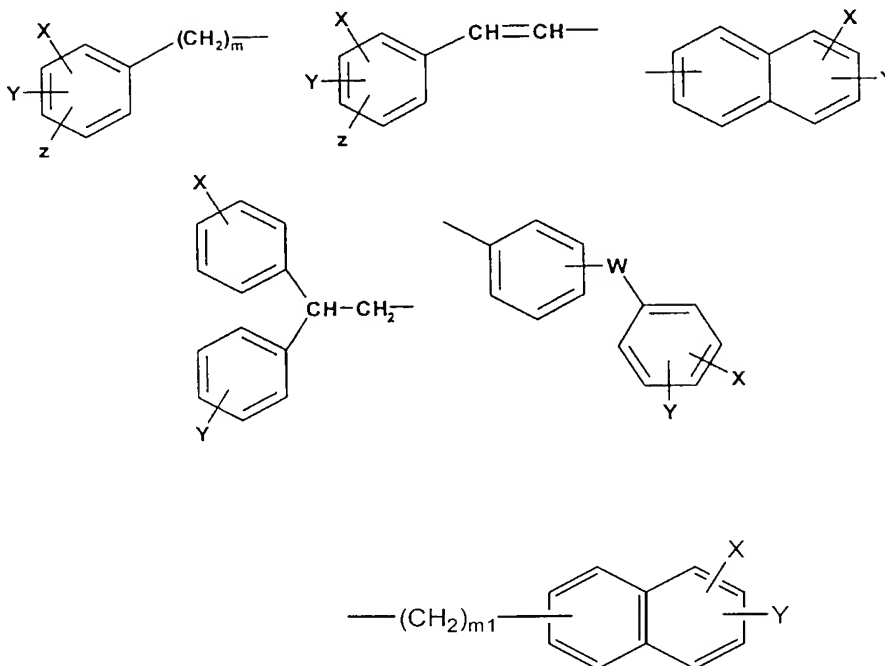
Claim 79 (New): The compound according to claim 78, wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen.

Claim 80 (New): The compound according to claim 4, wherein R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl radical.

Claim 81 (New): The compound according to claim 80, wherein R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl radical.

Claim 82 (New): The compound according to claim 6, wherein R<sup>11</sup> represents hydrogen or a C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl radical.

Claim 83 (New): The compound according to claim 7, wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom, or a radical chosen from the group consisting of



wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkoxy, linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a -NR<sup>12</sup>R<sup>13</sup> radical,

wherein R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup>, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl,

W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a CH<sub>2</sub>, O, S group or a NR<sup>14</sup> radical,

wherein R<sup>14</sup> is hydrogen or a linear or branched C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

m1 is 1 or 2.

Claim 84 (New): The compound according to claim 9, wherein the salt is in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 85 (New): The compound according to claim 9, wherein the compound is in the form of its enantiomers or diastereomers, or in the form of a mixture of at least two of its enantiomers and/or diastereomers.

Claim 86 (New): The compound according to claim 10, wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono substituted, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl radical.

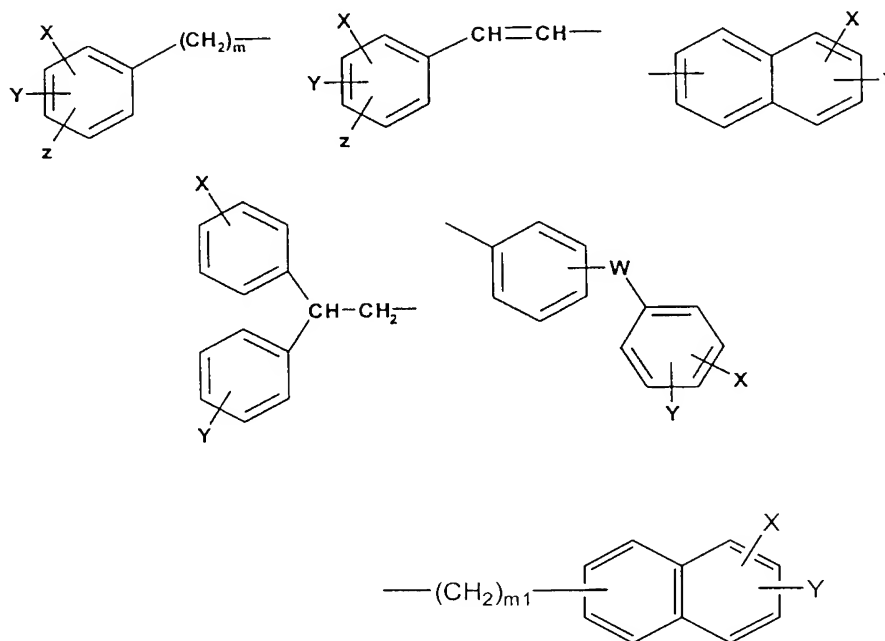
Claim 87 (New): The compound according to claim 86, wherein R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each represent hydrogen.

Claim 88 (New): The compound according to claim 11, wherein R<sup>7</sup> represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl radical.

Claim 89 (New): The compound according to claim 88, wherein  $R^7$  represents hydrogen or a  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl radical.

Claim 90 (New): The compound according to claim 12, wherein  $R^8$  and  $R^9$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl radical, with the proviso that  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  are not hydrogen at the same time.

Claim 91 (New): The compound according to claim 13, wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom, or a radical chosen from the group consisting of



wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl, linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy, linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a  $-NR^{12}R^{13}$  radical,

wherein  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$ , identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,

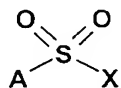
W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a  $CH_2$ , O, S group or a  $NR^{14}$  radical,

wherein  $R^{14}$  is hydrogen or a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 and

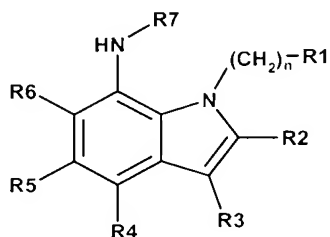
m1 is 1 or 2.

Claim 92 (New): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ib) as defined in claim 9, wherein at least one compound of general formula (II), or one of its suitably protected derivatives,



(II)

wherein X is an acceptable leaving group, is reacted with at least one 7-aminoindole of general formula (III), or one of its suitably protected derivatives;



(III)

to obtain the corresponding sulfonamide and optionally, from the latter, the protective groups may be removed if necessary.

Claim 93 (New): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ib) as defined in claim 9, wherein  $R^7$  is a linear or branched  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl comprising reacting



at least one compound of general formula (Ib), wherein  $R^7$  is a hydrogen atom, with an alkyl halogenide or dialkyl sulfate.

Claim 94 (New): A process for preparing a salt of general formula (Ib), as defined in claim 9, wherein at least one compound of the general formula (Ib) is reacted with a mineral acid or organic acid in a suitable solvent.

Claim 95 (New): The process according to claim 15, wherein X is a halogen atom.

Claim 96 (New): The process according to claim 15, wherein X is chlorine.

Claim 97 (New): The process according to claim 92, wherein X is a halogen atom.

Claim 98 (New): The process according to claim 92, wherein X is chlorine.